1	UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
2	EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN
3	SOUTHERN DIVISION
4	
5	In re: Chapter 13
6	BRANDON HEITMANN, Case No. 24-41956-mar
7	Debtor. Hon. Mark A. Randon
8	/
9	MOHAMED SAAD,
10	Plaintiff, Adv. Pro. No. 24-04375-mar
11	vs. Hon. Mark A. Randon
12	BRANDON HEITMANN,
13	Defendant.
14	/
15	
16	
17	The Video Deposition of BRANDON HEITMANN,
18	Taken via Hanson Remote,
19	Commencing at 10:24 a.m.,
20	Tuesday, July 22, 2025,
21	Before Susannah Gorman, CSR-9271, RPR.
22	
23	
24	
25	

Brandon Heitmann

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1	APPEARANCES:		Page 2	1	Table of payments	Page 4
2				2	DEPOSITION EXHIBIT H 11:22 a.m.	32
3	JEFFREY H. BIGELMAN, ESQ. (P61755)			3	Invoice from CRC Contractors Rental DEPOSITION EXHIBIT I	35
4	Osipov Bigelman, P.C.				11:27 a.m.	33
5	20700 Civic Center Drive, Suite 420			4	Summary page DEPOSITION EXHIBIT CC	55
6	Southfield, Michigan 48076-4140			5	12:09 p.m. Photo of the pool site	
7	(248)663-1800			6	DEPOSITION EXHIBIT K	60
8	jhb@osbig.com			7	12:36 p.m. Residential builder's license look-up	
9	Appearing on behalf of the Plaintiff.			8	website DEPOSITION EXHIBIT L	64
10					12:43 p.m.	
11	TYLER PATRICK PHILLIPS, ESQ. (P78280)			9	Formal complaint DEPOSITION EXHIBIT M	73
12	Kotz Sangster Wysocki P.C.			10	1:03 p.m. Consent order	
13	400 Renaissance Center, Suite 3400			11	DEPOSITION EXHIBIT T 1:04 p.m.	74
14	Detroit, Michigan 48243-1618			12	Boyd complaint	85
15	(313)259-8782			13	DEPOSITION EXHIBIT U 1:06 p.m.	75
16	tphillips@kotzsangster.com			14	Hebeka complaint DEPOSITION EXHIBIT V	77
17	Appearing on behalf of the Defendant.				1:07 p.m.	
18				15	Carter complaint DEPOSITION EXHIBIT W	78
19	ALSO PRESENT:			16	1:09 p.m. Responses to Plaintiff's Requests for	
20	Neal Rogers, Legal Videographer			17	Admission, Third Set of Interrogatories DEPOSITION EXHIBIT Y	80
21	Brandon Heitmann, Defendant			18	1:14 p.m.	00
22				19	License to do business in the city of Dearborn for Construction Contractors	
23				20 21		
24				22		
25				23 24		
			Page 3	25		Page 5
1 2	TABLE OF CONTENTS			1	Remote deposition	
3	BRANDON HEITMANN	PAGE		2	Tuesday, July 22, 2025	
4				3	About 10:24 a.m.	
5 6	Examination	6		4	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We	are on the record
7				1		are on the record.
	By Mr. Bigelman	-		5	This is the video-recorded deposition	
8	Examination	81		5 6	Heitmann being taken remotely via Zo	of Brandon oom. Today is
9				١ ـ	•	of Brandon oom. Today is
	Examination			6	Heitmann being taken remotely via Zo	of Brandon oom. Today is m. Would the
9 10 11 12	Examination			6 7 8	Heitmann being taken remotely via Zo July 22, 2025, and the time is 10:24 a.	of Brandon oom. Today is m. Would the
9 10 11 12 13	Examination By Mr. Phillips EXHIBITS	81		6 7 8	Heitmann being taken remotely via Zo July 22, 2025, and the time is 10:24 a. attorneys please identify themselves a	of Brandon oom. Today is m. Would the nd the court
9 10 11 12	Examination By Mr. Phillips			6 7 8 9	Heitmann being taken remotely via Zo July 22, 2025, and the time is 10:24 a attorneys please identify themselves a reporter please swear in the witness.	of Brandon oom. Today is m. Would the nd the court
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1	I'm going to show her to my office.	1		someone give you money, or how did you start that
2	MR. BIGELMAN: Yeah, no problem.	2		company?
3	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are going off the	3	A.	Can you elaborate a little bit on that?
4	record at 10:25 a.m.	4	Q.	Before I go any further, is there anything that would
5	(Off the record at 10:25 a.m.)	5		impair your memory as we sit here today, any health
6	(Back on the record at 10:27 a.m.)	6		conditions, any drug use, whether it's prescription or
7	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are back on the	7		street drugs or alcohol? Is there anything that would
8	record at 10:27 a.m.	8		impair your memory as we sit here today? Can you
9	MR. BIGELMAN: The witness has already been	9		answer, please.
10	sworn.	10	A	. Can you elaborate on what the funding would be for?
11	Mr. Heitmann, I presume you have given	11	Q	You need to answer the question I just asked.
12	depositions before?	12		MR. PHILLIPS: Jeff, he did. I don't know
13	THE WITNESS: Yes.	13		why you're not picking it up. He said, "No."
14	MR. BIGELMAN: So you understand the	14		But go ahead and speak loudly into the
15	process; correct?	15		microphone, Brandon.
16	THE WITNESS: Yes.	16		Can you repeat the prior question, just so
17	MR. BIGELMAN: You were here when I	17		we have a clear record for you, Jeff.
18	explained the process to your wife; correct?	18		MR. BIGELMAN: Susannah, are you able to
19	THE WITNESS: Yes.	19		hear his answers?
20	MR. BIGELMAN: Okay.	20		(The court reporter indicates she cannot
21	EXAMINATION	21		hear the witness's answers either.)
22	BY MR. BIGELMAN:	22		MR. BIGELMAN: Let's try to speak loudly so
23	Q. What's your educational background?	23		we can make a clear record.
24	A. Can you elaborate on that?	24		THE WITNESS: Okay.
25	Q. Did you graduate high school?	25		
	Page 7			Page 9
1	Page 7 A. Yes.	1		MR. BIGELMAN:
1 2	Page 7 A. Yes. Q. From what school?	1 2	Q.	WMR. BIGELMAN: So there's no impairments of memory; is that correct?
1 A 2 0 3 A	A. Yes. Q. From what school? A. Lutheran High School North.	1 2 3	Q. A.	MR. BIGELMAN: So there's no impairments of memory; is that correct? Correct.
1 2 0 3 4 0	Page 7 A. Yes. Q. From what school? A. Lutheran High School North. Q. Did you go to college?	1 2 3 4	Q. A. Q.	MR. BIGELMAN: So there's no impairments of memory; is that correct? Correct. Okay. When you started Exigent Landscaping, where did
1	Page 7 A. Yes. Q. From what school? A. Lutheran High School North. Q. Did you go to college? A. Yes.	1 2 3 4 5	Q. A. Q.	WMR. BIGELMAN: So there's no impairments of memory; is that correct? Correct. Okay. When you started Exigent Landscaping, where did the money come to start the company?
1	A. Yes. Q. From what school? A. Lutheran High School North. Q. Did you go to college? A. Yes. Q. Where did you go?	1 2 3 4 5 6	Q. A. Q.	MR. BIGELMAN: So there's no impairments of memory; is that correct? Correct. Okay. When you started Exigent Landscaping, where did the money come to start the company? Self-funded.
1	Page 7 A. Yes. Q. From what school? A. Lutheran High School North. Q. Did you go to college? A. Yes. Q. Where did you go? A. I went to excuse me. Went to Oakland; took some	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Q. A. Q. A. Q.	MR. BIGELMAN: So there's no impairments of memory; is that correct? Correct. Okay. When you started Exigent Landscaping, where did the money come to start the company? Self-funded. How much money did you use to start the company?
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1	A. Yes. Q. From what school? A. Lutheran High School North. Q. Did you go to college? A. Yes. Q. Where did you go? A. I went to excuse me. Went to Oakland; took some classes there and took come classes at Macomb. Q. Did you obtain a degree from either Oakland University or Macomb Community College? A. No. Q. Did you go to trade school? A. No. Q. Have you had any professional licenses? A. Builder's license. Q. Your license is currently suspended; correct?	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	Q. A. Q. A. Q. A. Q. A. Q.	MR. BIGELMAN: So there's no impairments of memory; is that correct? Correct. Okay. When you started Exigent Landscaping, where did the money come to start the company? Self-funded. How much money did you use to start the company? I don't recall the exact amount. Prior to starting the company, did you gain experience somewhere building pools? No. Where did you work before forming Exigent Landscaping? I worked at Jet's Pizza, Sorrento's Pizza, and for my cousin's landscaping company. What was the name of your cousin's landscaping company?
1	A. Yes. Q. From what school? A. Lutheran High School North. Q. Did you go to college? A. Yes. Q. Where did you go? A. I went to excuse me. Went to Oakland; took some classes there and took come classes at Macomb. Q. Did you obtain a degree from either Oakland University or Macomb Community College? A. No. Q. Did you go to trade school? A. No. Q. Have you had any professional licenses? A. Builder's license. Q. Your license is currently suspended; correct? A. I believe so.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	Q. A. Q. A. Q. A. Q. A. Q.	MR. BIGELMAN: So there's no impairments of memory; is that correct? Correct. Okay. When you started Exigent Landscaping, where did the money come to start the company? Self-funded. How much money did you use to start the company? I don't recall the exact amount. Prior to starting the company, did you gain experience somewhere building pools? No. Where did you work before forming Exigent Landscaping? I worked at Jet's Pizza, Sorrento's Pizza, and for my cousin's landscaping company. What was the name of your cousin's landscaping company? Not sure what it was called at the time, but now it is
1	A. Yes. Q. From what school? A. Lutheran High School North. Q. Did you go to college? A. Yes. Q. Where did you go? A. I went to excuse me. Went to Oakland; took some classes there and took come classes at Macomb. Q. Did you obtain a degree from either Oakland University or Macomb Community College? A. No. Q. Did you go to trade school? A. No. Q. Have you had any professional licenses? A. Builder's license. Q. Your license is currently suspended; correct? A. I believe so. Q. Do you know how long it's suspended for?	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	Q. A. Q. A. Q. A. Q. A. Q. A.	MR. BIGELMAN: So there's no impairments of memory; is that correct? Correct. Okay. When you started Exigent Landscaping, where did the money come to start the company? Self-funded. How much money did you use to start the company? I don't recall the exact amount. Prior to starting the company, did you gain experience somewhere building pools? No. Where did you work before forming Exigent Landscaping? I worked at Jet's Pizza, Sorrento's Pizza, and for my cousin's landscaping company. What was the name of your cousin's landscaping company? Not sure what it was called at the time, but now it is called Height Control Lawn & Landscape, I believe.
1	A. Yes. Q. From what school? A. Lutheran High School North. Q. Did you go to college? A. Yes. Q. Where did you go? A. I went to excuse me. Went to Oakland; took some classes there and took come classes at Macomb. Q. Did you obtain a degree from either Oakland University or Macomb Community College? A. No. Q. Did you go to trade school? A. No. Q. Have you had any professional licenses? A. Builder's license. Q. Your license is currently suspended; correct? A. I believe so. Q. Do you know how long it's suspended for? A. I don't recall.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	Q. A. Q. A. Q. A. Q. A. Q.	MR. BIGELMAN: So there's no impairments of memory; is that correct? Correct. Okay. When you started Exigent Landscaping, where did the money come to start the company? Self-funded. How much money did you use to start the company? I don't recall the exact amount. Prior to starting the company, did you gain experience somewhere building pools? No. Where did you work before forming Exigent Landscaping? I worked at Jet's Pizza, Sorrento's Pizza, and for my cousin's landscaping company. What was the name of your cousin's landscaping company? Not sure what it was called at the time, but now it is called Height Control Lawn & Landscape, I believe. Who is Hank Bell to you? Is he related to you?
1	A. Yes. Q. From what school? A. Lutheran High School North. Q. Did you go to college? A. Yes. Q. Where did you go? A. I went to excuse me. Went to Oakland; took some classes there and took come classes at Macomb. Q. Did you obtain a degree from either Oakland University or Macomb Community College? A. No. Q. Did you go to trade school? A. No. Q. Have you had any professional licenses? A. Builder's license. Q. Your license is currently suspended; correct? A. I believe so. Q. Do you know how long it's suspended for? A. I don't recall. Q. You are the sole owner of Exigent Landscaping, LLC;	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 166 17 18 19 20	Q. A. Q. A. Q. A. Q. A. Q. A.	MR. BIGELMAN: So there's no impairments of memory; is that correct? Correct. Okay. When you started Exigent Landscaping, where did the money come to start the company? Self-funded. How much money did you use to start the company? I don't recall the exact amount. Prior to starting the company, did you gain experience somewhere building pools? No. Where did you work before forming Exigent Landscaping? I worked at Jet's Pizza, Sorrento's Pizza, and for my cousin's landscaping company. What was the name of your cousin's landscaping company? Not sure what it was called at the time, but now it is called Height Control Lawn & Landscape, I believe. Who is Hank Bell to you? Is he related to you?
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1	A. Yes. Q. From what school? A. Lutheran High School North. Q. Did you go to college? A. Yes. Q. Where did you go? A. I went to excuse me. Went to Oakland; took some classes there and took come classes at Macomb. Q. Did you obtain a degree from either Oakland University or Macomb Community College? A. No. Q. Did you go to trade school? A. No. Q. Have you had any professional licenses? A. Builder's license. Q. Your license is currently suspended; correct? A. I believe so. Q. Do you know how long it's suspended for? A. I don't recall. Q. You are the sole owner of Exigent Landscaping, LLC;	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 166 17 18 19 20	Q. A. A. Q. A. Q. A. Q. A. Q. A.	MR. BIGELMAN: So there's no impairments of memory; is that correct? Correct. Okay. When you started Exigent Landscaping, where did the money come to start the company? Self-funded. How much money did you use to start the company? I don't recall the exact amount. Prior to starting the company, did you gain experience somewhere building pools? No. Where did you work before forming Exigent Landscaping? I worked at Jet's Pizza, Sorrento's Pizza, and for my cousin's landscaping company. What was the name of your cousin's landscaping company? Not sure what it was called at the time, but now it is called Height Control Lawn & Landscape, I believe. Who is Hank Bell to you? Is he related to you?

25 Q. Did you start that company with your own money, or did 25 Q. You worked for him; is that correct?

 $24\;\;\text{A.}\;\;\text{We were working together to build pools, and he was --}$

24 A. I can't recall exactly when.

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Pages 10..13

1 MR. PHILLIPS: I don't think he finished 1 Avery Petri, and you on June 27, 2022, by Docusign; 2 his answer. 2 correct? 3 3 A. Yes. Go ahead. Finish your answer, Brandon. THE WITNESS: And he was like a mentor, I 4 Q. Were you with Mohamed Saad before this contract was 5 would say. executed? 6 BY MR. BIGELMAN: 6 A. No. Q. How old are you? Q. Did you go out and visit 921 Crescent Drive, Dearborn, 7 8 A. Thirty-one. before this contract was executed? 9 Q. When did you work for him? 9 A. I don't think so. 10 A. Sorry, when did I work for who? 10 Q. Who is Avery Petri? 11 O. For Hank Bell. 11 A. Can you repeat that, please. 12 A. I never worked for Hank Bell besides, like, small 12 Q. Right here on the screen, Avery Petri, who is that? 13 landscaping stuff for his personal home. 13 A. That was our sales -- one of our sales reps. 14 O. She worked for you? Or is it a "he"? 14 O. Brandon, what I have put on the screen has been marked 15 as Exhibit A. Can you see that document? 15 A. "He." He worked for Exigent. MARKED BY THE REPORTER: 16 Q. Okay. 16 17 DEPOSITION EXHIBIT A 17 MR. PHILLIPS: Jeff, I don't mean to 18 10:36 a.m. 18 interrupt, but just as a formality, I don't think we 19 A. Yes. 19 ever got the roll call of who is in the room. Is it Q. The top left corner has the Exigent Landscaping logo. 20 20 the same as Ms. Heitmann? 21 Do you see that? 21 MR. BIGELMAN: Can you say again, Tyler. 22 22 A. Yes. MR. PHILLIPS: Yeah. I apologize for 23 Q. The top middle says "Estimate." Do you see that? 23 interrupting, but as a formality, I don't think we got 24 the roll call of who was in every room. Is it the 25 25 Q. It's dated June 27, '22. Do you see that? same as Ms. Heitmann? So I can presume Mr. Saad's not Page 11 1 A. Yes. 1 with us today? 2 Q. And it says, "Dear OJ and Mohamed, 921 Crescent Drive, 2 MR. BIGELMAN: That's correct. Dearborn"; correct? 3 3 MR. PHILLIPS: Okay. That satisfies me in 4 A. Yes. 4 terms of who is in the room. Thank you. Continue. 5 5 Q. This was a proposal to build a swimming pool; correct? Sorry about that, Jeff. 6 A. Correct. 6 MR. BIGELMAN: No problem. You're looking Q. You didn't have the builder's license at this time; 7 at my home office. correct? BY MR. BIGELMAN: 9 A. Correct. Q. Did Avery Petri work on commission for you or salary 10 Q. Do you see at the bottom of the page, it has 10 or some type of hybrid? 11 "License No. 802082183"? Do you see that? 11 A. I believe it was a hybrid. 12 Q. Do you recall what it was? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. That's not a residential builder's license, is it? 13 A. Not the exact amount. 14 A. Correct. 14 Q. As part of Exhibit A, there's a document attached to 15 Q. And, in fact, that same license number is on every it. Do you see where I have highlighted "CO1"? Does 15 16 page; correct? 16 that mean "Change Order 1"? 17 A. Correct. 17 A. Yes. Q. I'm going to -- see these numbers at the bottom? 18 Q. This is dated August 5, 2022; correct? 18 19 These are called Bates numbers. These are how lawyers 19 A. Yes. 20 mark documents. Okay? Q. And as of August 5, 2022, you did not have a 21 residential builder's license; correct? 22 Q. So this was marked by an attorney as "BH27." Do you 22 THE WITNESS: Thanks, Phil. 23 see that? 23 BY MR. BIGELMAN: 24 A. Yes. 24 Q. Do you think I'm correct, or you think you did? 25 Q. Okay. And this document was signed by Mohamed Saad, 25 A. I don't think I had a builder's license at that time.

- 1 Q. Prior to August 5, 2022, and June 27, 2022, did you
- 2 ever advise Mr. Saad that you did not have a
- 3 residential builder's license?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. When would that have been?
- 6 A. I texted him and told him I was gonna be working with
- 7 Hank and he was gonna be assisting me with the permit
- 8 process and Hank's been in construction for 40 years
- 9 and we were gonna be working together on it.
- 10 Q. Has that text been produced?
- 11 A. I believe so. I believe so. I don't know if I can
- 12 ask Tyler or not but...
- 13 MR. PHILLIPS: We produced everything,
- 14 Jeff.
- 15 BY MR. BIGELMAN:
- 16 Q. You testified that you had not spoken to Mr. Saad
- prior to the execution of the contract on June 27,
- 18 '22: correct?
- 19 A. Can you repeat that, please.
- 20 Q. Yeah. When was the supposed text saying that you were
- 21 gonna use Hank Bell's license?
- 22 A. I don't recall the exact date, but it was before the
- 23 permits were pulled. If I can recall correctly,
- 24 Mohamed had some contacts in the City, and he was
- 25 trying to expedite the process of the approval of the
 - Page 15
- 1 permits, and I told him the name the permits were
- 2 under and sent him a brief description of who I was
- 3 working with on that.
- 4 Q. Okay. But you would not have pulled permits before
- 5 you signed the contract on June 27, '22; correct?
- 6 A. Correct.
- 7 Q. And you didn't pull permits prior to August 5, 2022;
- 8 did you?
- 9 A. I don't -- August 5, 2022. I don't recall exactly
- 10 when we pulled the permits. I would have to look at a
- 11 document.
- 12 Q. There was never -- as of June 27, '22, and August 5,
- 13 2022, there was no residential builder's license
- 14 attached to Exigent Landscaping, LLC; correct?
- 15 A. I'm sorry. Can I give you a new answer to my -- can I rephrase my last answer?
- 17 Q. Just answer the present question, please.
- 18 A. Okay. Can you ask it again, please.
- 19 MR. BIGELMAN: Susannah, can you reread it.
- 20 (The court reporter read back the previous
- 21 question at 10:45 a.m.)
- 22 THE WITNESS: That's correct. We viewed
- 23 Hank as our qualified officer.
- 24 BY MR. BIGELMAN:
- 25 Q. His company is Construction Contractors; right?

- 1 A. Correct.
- 2 Q. They're not mentioned anywhere in the June 27, '22,
- document or the change order on August 5, 2022;
- 4 correct?
- 5 A. Correct.
- 6 Q. If we look here on page 4 of Exhibit A, it says,
- 7 "Estimated start date, August," slash,
- 8 "September 2022, contingent on weather, certain
- 9 material availability, and building permit issuance";
- 10 correct?
- 11 A. Correct.
- 12 Q. Showing you on the screen what's been marked as
- 13 Exhibit C. Can you still see that?
- 14 MARKED BY THE REPORTER:
- 15 DEPOSITION EXHIBIT C
- 16 10:49 a.m.
- 17 MR. PHILLIPS: You just closed it, Jeff.
- MR. BIGELMAN: Okay. Let's try it again.
- 19 BY MR. BIGELMAN:
- 20 Q. Do you see it now?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. Okay. This says "Swimming Pool Permit Application."
- 23 Do you see that?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. This is dated August 31, 2022; right?
- Page 17

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. So that's after June 27, '22, which was the date you
- 3 signed the contract, and also after Change Order 1 of
- 4 August 5, 2022; correct?
- 5 A. If we're referring to the document in front of us,
- 6 yes. Off memory, I thought Change Order 2 was signed
- 7 after we had the permits and started work.
- 8 Q. I'm talking about Change Order 1, which is dated
 - August 5, 2022.
- 10 A. August 5th... Okay. Yeah, according to this
- 11 document.
- 12 Q. Let's go back to Exhibit A. June 27, 2022; right?
- 13 A. Yep.

- 14 Q. Change Order 1, August 5, 2022; correct?
- 15 A. Correct.
- 16 Q. Exhibit C, "Swimming Pool Permit Application,"
- 17 August 31, 2022; correct?
- 18 A. Correct.
- 19 Q. I did not hear your answer.
- 20 A. Correct.
- 21 Q. This is your handwriting?
- 22 A. No.
- 23 Q. First you said, "Correct." Then you say, "No."
- 24 MR. PHILLIPS: He's answering "Correct" to
- 25 the prior question, Jeff, which wasn't regarding

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Pages 18..21

- 1 handwriting.
- 2 BY MR. BIGELMAN:
- 3 Q. Is this your handwriting on this, document, which is
- 4 marked as Exhibit C?
- 5 A. No.
- 6 Q. Talk into the microphone. I cannot hear you.
- 7 A. No.
- 8 Q. Did you sign Hank Bell's name on this document?
- 9 A. No.
- 10 Q. Do you know who did?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 Q. Do you believe that Hank Bell signed this signature
- here that purports to be his?
- 14 A. I'm not sure. I don't recall.
- 15 Q. Would you agree that on the first page of Exhibit C,
- 16 there's no mention of Brandon Heitmann or Exigent
- 17 Landscaping, LLC?
- 18 A. In the first page? Correct.
- 19 Q. Correct. On the second page, the only mention of you
- is an e-mail address, "bheitmann12@yahoo.com";
- 21 correct?
- 22 A. Correct.
- 23 Q. And your wife's name, Amanda Pisarski; correct?
- 24 A. Correct.
- 25 Q. Is that the e-mail you used at the time,
- Page 19
- 1 bheitmann12@yahoo.com?
- 2 A. It was one of them, yes.
- 3 Q. What about this address, 55949 Lancewood Drive, Shelby
- 4 Township? What is that?
- 5 A. That's Amanda's home address -- parents' address.
- 6 Q. Is that where she lived as of August 25th, '22?
- 7 A. No.
- 8 Q. You two lived somewhere else at the time?
- 9 A. I believe so, yes. Or yes, we did.
- 10 Q. Does this look like your wife's handwriting?
- 11 A. I'm not sure.
- 12 Q. Do you recognize the notary signature?
- 13 A. Yes. I see it.
- 14 Q. Right. Who is the notary? Do you know?
- 15 A. Who is the notary? Can you rephrase that.
- 16 Q. You know what a notary is; correct?
- 17 A. Correct.
- 18 Q. Did you have a notary working at your office or
- 19 someone who had a notary --
- 20 A. No.
- 21 Q. No?
- 22 A. No.
- 23 Q. Where would you get documents notarized when you
- 24 needed them notarized?
- 25 A. FedEx or a bank.

- 1 Q. Do you see at the bottom of this document, "Plan fee,
- 2 \$15. Processing fee, \$42"?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Did Exigent pay that money, or did Construction
- 5 Contractors or Hank Bell? Do you know who paid that?
- 6 A. I don't recall.
- 7 Q. And as of August 25, 2022, you did not have a
- residential builder's license; correct?
- 9 A. Correct.
- 10 Q. Showing you what's been marked as Exhibit D. Do you
- see it on your screen?
- 12 MARKED BY THE REPORTER:
- 13 DEPOSITION EXHIBIT D
- 14 10:57 a.m.
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. This is titled "Revised Document Application";
- 17 correct?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And this is dated September 29, '22; correct?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. This is for 921 Crescent Drive; correct?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. Is this your handwriting on the first page of
- 24 Exhibit D?
- 25 A. No.

1

- Q. Were you ever an authorized agent of Construction
- 2 Contractors?
- 3 MR. PHILLIPS: Foundation. Form.
 - If you know, go ahead.
- 5 THE WITNESS: Can you reask that, please.
- 6 BY MR. BIGELMAN:
- 7 Q. Were you ever an authorized agent of Construction
- 8 Contractors?
- 9 MR. PHILLIPS: Same objection.
- 10 THE WITNESS: No.
- 11 BY MR. BIGELMAN:
- 12 Q. Page 2, line 17, "Company, Construction Contractors,"
- do you see that?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Line 23, "Authorized representative, Brandon
- 16 Heitmann," do you see that?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Paragraph 22, "Company e-mail,
- 19 exigentlandscaping@yahoo.com." Was that an e-mail
- that you used at the time?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. I didn't hear your answer.
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 MR. PHILLIPS: Did you get that, Jeff?
- 25 MR. BIGELMAN: I did.

Brandon Heitmann

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Page 22 1 MR. PHILLIPS: Okay.	1 MARKED BY THE REPORTER:
2	2 DEPOSITION EXHIBIT F
3 BY MR. BIGELMAN:	3 11:04 a.m.
4 Q. Showing you what's been marked Exhibit E. This	4 MARKED BY THE REPORTER:
document's entitled "Revised Documents Application."	5 DEPOSITION EXHIBIT G
6 Revision date, 10-24-22. Do you see that?	6 11:04 a.m.
7 MARKED BY THE REPORTER:	7 Q. This is Exhibit F, "Defendant's Response to Plaintiff
8 DEPOSITION EXHIBIT E	8 Interrogatories." Interrogatory 1, we asked you to
9 11:01 a.m.	9 "Identify the amount that you or your company received
10 A. Yes.	10 from the Plaintiff"; right?
11 Q. Do you recognize strike that.	11 A. Correct.
Paragraph 1, "Permit site address: 921	12 Q. Okay. And you first say that you received \$50,000 on
13 Crescent Drive, city of Dearborn"; correct?	13 July 1; correct?
14 A. Yes.	14 A. Correct.
15 Q. Paragraph 7, "This revision is for a grotto that is	15 Q. So I made this chart here. Can you see the chart?
attached to the pool. We have already submitted the	16 A. Correct. Yeah, I can.
plans for the pool itself." That's what it says;	17 Q. So the chart reflects the July 1 payment that we just
18 correct?	spoke about; correct?
19 A. Yes.	19 A. Correct.
20 Q. Is this your handwriting on the front, on this first	20 Q. Then you state in your interrogatory answer that you
21 page here?	21 received \$100,000 on August 18, 2022; correct?
22 A. No.	22 A. Correct.
23 Q. Do you know whose handwriting it is?	23 Q. That's reflected here; correct?
24 A. No.	24 A. Correct.
25 Q. On the second page, paragraph 17, "Company name:	25 Q. And I also broke it out separately, the second table, Page 25
1 Construction Contractors." Paragraph 22, again, your	1 the first two payments; correct? Do you see that?
e-mail is exigentlandscaping@yahoo.com. That's your	2 A. Correct.
3 e-mail; correct?	3 Q. Then you state, "\$26,348 direct payment made to
4 A. Yes.	4 subcontractor for progress payment on December 14,
5 Q. Paragraph 20, "Company phone number: 586-489-6680."	5 2022"; correct?
6 That's your phone number?	6 A. Correct.
7 A. No.	7 Q. And if we go back to Exhibit G, that's our table here;
8 Q. Whose phone number's that?	8 correct?
9 A. Amanda's.	9 A. Correct.
10 Q. Paragraph 23, "Authorized representative: Madison	10 Q. It's also reflected in this table at the bottom,
11 Braunz"; correct?	payments to third parties; right?
12 A. Correct.	12 A. Correct.
13 Q. She's a former employee of Exigent Landscaping;	13 Q. Who was that contractor?
14 correct? 15 A. Correct.	14 A. That was Messina's Concrete.
	15 Q. I'm going back to your interrogatory response. You16 received a hundred thousand dollars on December 30,
16 Q. Is this her writing on this page we're looking at, 17 page 2 of Exhibit E?	17 2022; correct?
18 A. I'm not sure.	18 A. Yes.
19 Q. And as of October 24, 2022, you personally did not	19 Q. That's reflected in Exhibit G in the table; correct?
20 have a residential builder's license; correct?	20 A. Yes.
21 A. Correct.	21 Q. That's also reflected in the table of the payments to
22 Q. Okay. I'm going to ask some questions, and I'm going	22 Exigent; correct?
23 to toggle back between Exhibits F and G. Okay?	23 A. Yes.
24 A. Okay.	24 Q. December 30, 2022, you did not have your builder's
	05 1:

25

license; correct?

Pages 26..29

- 1 A. Correct.
- 2 Q. So you had received \$250,000 from Mr. Saad, or the
- 3 company had, before you received your residential
- 4 builder's license; correct?
- 5 A. Correct.
- 6 Q. If you go to the second page, continuation of your
- 7 answer to Interrogatory 1, it states that "Direct
- 8 payments were made to stone company in the amount of
- 9 \$5,506.72 on April 23rd"; correct?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Going back to Exhibit G, I accounted for that payment;
- 12 correct?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And I also accounted for it in the third table for
- payments to third parties; correct?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Going back to your interrogatory response, Exigent
- received a hundred thousand dollars on May 4, 2023;
- 19 correct?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. And going back to Exhibit G, I accounted for that in
- both the first table and in the second table; correct?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. This table shows a total of \$350,000 paid directly to
- 25 Exigent; right?

- Q. And were you communicating directly with him or wasone of your employees?
- 3 A. When it came to money, yes, I was -- I was -- I was
- 4 communicating directly with him.
- 5 Q. How often were you at the jobsite at 921 Crescent?
- 6 A. What time period are you referring to?
- 7 Q. Well, from the start of the job until Exigent was terminated.
- 9 A. In the beginning, I was not on the jobsite too much.
- 10 I had a project manager managing the project that
- 11 was -- towards the end of the project, I became a
- 12 little bit more involved, but my project manager
- 13 managed the project, and my operations manager.
- 14 Q. In total, how many times would you say you visited 921
- 15 Crescent Drive?
- 16 A. Probably 15 times, maybe 20.
- 17 Q. Who is the project manager on the job?
- 18 A. What time period?
- 19 O. Was there more than one?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Who were the project managers on the job?
- 22 A. I believe, originally, if my memory is correct, Archie
- was the first project manager on the job.
- 24 Q. What's Archie's last name?
- 25 A. Mercado.

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- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. And that's accurate; right?
- 3 A. Yes
- 4 Q. And then if we go back to the interrogatory response,
- 5 it says, "Credited Plaintiff for direct payments to
- 6 the water slide supplier in the amounts of \$5,718.87
- 7 and \$7,620.87 on August 1, 2023, and August 15, 2023";
- 8 correct?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. I accounted for both of those payments in the first
- table of Exhibit G and in the third table; correct?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. Would you agree that Exhibit G is an accurate summary
- of your interrogatory that we just looked at?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Do you know why Mohamed Saad would have paid the stone
- 17 company directly?
- 18 A. Yeah. He was behind on payments, and he offered to
- 19 pay suppliers directly. He claimed he was waiting on
- 20 money from the bank.
- 21 Q. So you're claiming he was behind on payments?
- 22 A. Correct. He was.
- 23 Q. Is there any e-mails or text messages to that effect?
- 24 A. Yes, text messages, mainly, if I recall correctly.
- 25 Phone conversations.

- 1 Q. Why was he replaced?
- 2 A. I believe -- we believed he was stealing from the
- 3 company.
- 4 Q. You fired him?
- 5 A. Yes.

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- 6 Q. Did you have issues with his workmanship also?
- 7 A No.
- 8 Q. And who was the second project manager?
- 9 A. Kody -- well, excuse me. Kody was his -- was the
- 10 operations manager, and Archie reported to him, but
- 11 the other project manager was Cory Maxwell.
- 12 O. Did Cory Maxwell see it through until you were
- 13 terminated?
- 14 A. If I remember correctly, yes. If -- yes. Yeah.
- 15 Q. Was Cory Maxwell fired at some point, or did he stay
- with Exigent until it went bankrupt?
- 17 A. He stayed with Exigent throughout the bankruptcy, but
- 18 he was later fired.
- 19 Q. Why was he fired?
- 20 A. Honestly, just attitude, anger, I would say. He was
- 21 kind of a loose cannon, I would say, sometimes.
- 22 Q. Did you have workmanship issues?
- 23 A. No.
- 24 Q. What was Kody's last name?
- 25 A. Grandchamp.

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Pages 30..33

- 1 Q. How do you spell that?
- 2 A. G-r-a-n-d-c-h-a-m-p.
- 3 Q. And did he work with Exigent until it went bankrupt,
- 4 or was his employment terminated earlier?
- 5 A. He was terminated earlier.
- 6 Q. For what reason?
- 7 A. He actually quit.
- 8 Q. Did he quit during the -- the project at 921 Crescent?
- 9 A. Yeah. He quit, if I remember correctly, in the
- winter.
- 11 Q. Winter of which year?
- 12 A. I believe '23.
- 13 Q. Do you know why he quit?
- 14 A. I think so.
- 15 Q. Well, tell me.
- 16 A. I believe he quit -- he just -- I don't know. He
- **17** couldn't handle the pressure. He was making mistakes,
- 18 and I was putting the pressure on him, and I don't
- 19 think he could handle it. He didn't believe in the
- 20 vision maybe. I don't know.
- 21 Q. (Technical difficulties) Saad job either quit or were
- 22 fired during the job; correct?
- 23 A. I'm sorry, can you ask that again, please.
- 24 Q. Yeah. Two of the three people in charge of the Saad
- job were fired or quit during the pendency of the job? 25
- 1 A. Correct. Three of the three.
- 2 Q. Three of the three. Cory also; right?
- 3 A. Correct.
- 4 Q. Three of them quit?
- 5 A. Correct.
- 6 Q. No, I'm asking you.
- 7 A. Oh, sorry. To clarify, two of them were fired. One
- of them quit. 8
- 9 Q. So who -- who managed the job after these three guys 10 were gone?
- 11 A. Well, one of them was managing the job at all times.
- 12 Cory was the latest, and I believe we were terminated
- 13 when Cory was still with us.
- 14 Q. Who was higher? A project manager or operations
- 15 manager?
- 16 A. Operations manager.
- 17 Q. We're going back to Exhibit -- Exhibit F should still
- 18 be on your screen. Now we're gonna look at
- 19 Interrogatory 2. This is where I ask you to identify
- 20 the disposition of all the money you or your company
- received from the Plaintiff. Do you see that? 21
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. And then in response, you point us to Bates Nos. 369
- 24 to 383, 470, 473, 477, 496 to 509, as well as employee
- 25 time records at Bates 22; correct?

- MR. PHILLIPS: (Indiscernible) just for
- 2 clarifying the record.
 - (The court reporter interjects.)
 - He said "22." I believe that's Bates 522,
- 5 just so we have a clean record.
 - MR. BIGELMAN: Correct, Bates 522.
- 7 THE WITNESS: Respectfully, I don't know 8
 - what the Bates portion of this is, "Bates 369-3." I
- 9 don't know what any of that is. I think my attorney
- 10 put that in there.
- 11 BY MR. BIGELMAN:
- 12 Q. Okay. Well, I'm about to show you so we can go
- 13 through it.
- 14 A. Okay. Okay.
- 15 Q. What I have put on your screen is Exhibit H. These
 - are the Bates numbers that we were referring to, and
- 17 we can look in the bottom right-hand corner. See
- 18 where it says "Heitmann 369"?
- 19 MARKED BY THE REPORTER:
- 20 DEPOSITION EXHIBIT H
- 21 11:22 a.m.
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. Okay. So scrolling up, this is an invoice from CRC
- 24 Contractors Rental; correct?
- 25 A. Yes.

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- 1 Q. For \$902.12; correct?
- 2 A. Yes. Yeah, I do remember this.
- 3 O. What is this for?
- 4 A. Looks like a rental for a trailer.
- 5 Q. Okay. This is dated April 21, 2023; correct?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And how do we know this is specific to the 921
- Crescent job?
- 9 A. I would be going off whoever the project manager would
- 10 be at that time. My assumption is that was used for
- 11 transporting equipment and/or materials to the job.
- 12 Q. But looking at this document, you're not certain;
- 13 correct?
- 14 A. Not certain about what?
- 15 Q. You're not certain which job this was for.
- 16 A. I would say yes, I'm certain that it was for the Saad
- 17
- 18 Q. Do you see that "Ship to" here? Nothing there --
- 19 there's either nothing there, or something was whited
- 20 out. Do you see that?
- 21 A. Yes, I see it.
- 22 Q. So I made a summary page also for this, "CRC \$902.12,
- 23 Bates No. 369." Do you see that?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Yet that's accurate from -- based on what we just



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- 1 looked at: correct? 2 A. Yes. Where is the number on this? 369, where is that 3 number? 4 MR. PHILLIPS: Right here. 5 Can we go back to the invoice, please, Jeff? 6 7 MR. BIGELMAN: Sure. 8 THE WITNESS: Okay. Yeah. 9 MR. BIGELMAN: Okay. 10 THE WITNESS: Yes. 11 MR. BIGELMAN: I just wanted to make an 12 accurate summary. That's all we're trying to do here. 13 BY MR. BIGELMAN: 14 O. The next one we're gonna look at is 371. Okay? 15 A. Yes. 16 Q. Now, here, unlike the prior document we provided, Bates 369 -- here it says, "Ship to Exigent 17 18 Landscaping, 921 Crescent Drive." Do you see that? 19 A. Yes. 20 Q. And this was for -- this was for April 25, 2023, in 21 the amount of \$2,189.32; correct? 22 A. Yes. 23 Q. And if we go to the summary page, it's reflected 24 there; correct?
- 25 A. Yes.

Page 35 1 Q. Now we're looking at Bates No. 373. Okay?

- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. And, again, here there are documents dated April 25,
- 2023. Again, here, the "Ship to Exigent Landscaping,
- 5 921 Crescent Drive." Do you see that?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Dated April 25, 2023?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Amount approved, \$2,189.32. Actually, that's the same
- one. Let's go to the next one. All right. We're 10
- looking at Bates 375. Do you see that? 11
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. And this is dated April 27, 2023, and at the top,
- 14 "Ship to Exigent Landscaping, 921 Crescent Drive." Do
- 15 you see that?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Total amount, 1,362.52; correct?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And it's reflected on Exhibit I -- correct? -- the
- 20 summary page?
- MARKED BY THE REPORTER: 21
- 22 DEPOSITION EXHIBIT I
- 23 11:27 a.m.
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Looking at Bates No. 377 -- actually, that's the same

- one. Again, Bates 379, it's dated April 26, 2023;
- 2 correct?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And "Ship to Exigent Landscaping, 921 Crescent Drive,
- Dearborn"; correct?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. This is \$79.50; correct?
- 8 A. Yes.
- Q. And here on the summary page, we have the amount
- correct, the name correct -- CRC -- the amount, 79.50, 10
- 11 Bates No. 379: correct?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. Now we're looking at Bates No. 381. Do you see that?
- 14 A. Yes.
- Q. And this is dated May 3, 2023, and here, like the
- first one we looked at, the "Ship to," there's nothing 16
- 17 there. It was either whited out, or it's missing. Do
- 18 vou see that?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. This is for \$902.12; correct?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. And it's on the summary page; correct?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Here, Bates No. 383, this is dated May 8, 2023.
- 25 Again, there's nothing in the "Ship to" portion;
 - Page 37

- correct? 1
 - 2 A. Correct.
 - 3 Q. And this is the same dollar amount as before, \$902.11
 - [sic]; correct?
 - 5 A. Correct.
 - 6 Q. And we reflected that in the summary page; correct?
 - 7 A. Correct.
 - Q. I'll make this bigger. This is a small one. 470, do
 - you see that? 9
 - 10 A. Yes.
 - 11 Q. This is from Nacy, N-a-c-y. Do you see that?
 - 12 A. Yes.
 - 13 Q. This is for \$23,500; correct?
 - 14 A. That's what it says on the estimate, correct.
 - 15 Q. What is this?
 - 16 A. I'm sorry?
 - Q. Do you see the black signature and then the date in
 - 18 black that's handwritten?
 - 19 A. Yes.
 - 20 Q. Do you see that? Do you know whose signature that is?
 - 21 Whose is it?
 - 22 A. Mine. Mine.
 - 23 Q. Okay. This is for the job at 922 -- 921 Crescent; is
 - 24 that right?
 - 25 A. Yeah.



- 1 Q. If we look at the summary page, we have "Nacy 23,500,
- 2 Bates No. 470"; correct?
- 3 A. Yes. So that was an estimate there.
- 4 Q. Was this actually paid, or was this just an estimate?
- 5 A. It was an estimate. We paid him a portion of a down
- payment on that. 6
- 7 Q. How much of the 23,500 did you pay?
- 8 A. I don't recall the exact amount.
- 9 O. Was it, like, half down or less? More?
- 10 A. I think half or less, going off memory.
- 11 Q. Okay. So in our summary page, we're just reflecting
- what the invoices say. We're not -- I'm not 12
- 13 questioning right or wrong. I'm just making a
- 14 summary. Okay?
- 15 A. Okav.
- 16 Q. So the summary reflects what Bates 470 says; correct?
- 17 A. Correct.
- 18 Q. Bates 477, this is Upper Canada Stone company; right?
- 20 Q. It says "Purchase order date, November 11, '21";
- 21 right?
- 22 A. Yes. On the sheet in front of me, yes.
- 23 Q. This says, "Ship to Exigent job 66 West Millington
- 24 Road, Fostoria, Michigan"; right?
- 25 A. Yes.

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- 1 Q. So this is not for the job at 921 Crescent Drive;
- 2 correct?
- 3 A. It should have been. I don't know if my CFO made an
- 4 error or the stone company made an error. Based on
- 5 memory, there was a partial ship to that address. A
- 6 few boulders came off. The majority of the load went
- 7 to Moe's -- Saad's. It was a split load.
- 8 O. Did you do a job -- did Exigent do a job at 66 West
- Millington Road, Fostoria, Michigan?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And what is UCG -- I don't even how to say that word.
- I'll spell it. G-u-i --
- 13 A. Guillotine.
- 14 Q. How do you say it?
- 15 A. Guillotine.
- 16 O. Guillotine. What is that?
- 17 A. Limestone.
- 18 Q. Okay. Forty-three and a half tons of limestone?
- 19 A. Correct.
- 20 Q. And you think part of it went to 921 Crescent Drive?
- 21 A. Most of it.
- 22 Q. "Purchase Order date, November 11, '21." Do you see
- 23 that?
- 24 A. Correct.
- 25 Q. Do you see "Date shipped, November 19, '21"?

- 1 A. Correct.
- 2 Q. That would have predated the contract with my client
- Mr. Saad; correct?
- 4 A. Correct.
- 5 Q. We listed that here on the summary page; correct?
- 6 A. Correct.
- 7 Q. Next one is Bates No. 496, 10-26-22. It's from Boomer
- Construction Materials, shipped to 921 Crescent Drive;
- 9 right?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And deposit of \$6,351.35. Do you see that?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. Was that paid?
- 14 A. I believe so.
- 15 O. Okay. And what was this for?
- 16 A. Rebar.
- 17 Q. Going to the concrete?
- 18 A. Yeah, for the pool.
- 19 Q. And if we go back to the summary page, we listed that
- 20 here; correct?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. I'm looking at Bates No. 497. This is a Home Depot
- invoice dated -- I don't see a date, but I do see "Job 23
- 24 description, 921 Crescent." Correct?
- 25 A. Correct.

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- Q. Here we go. Here's the date, October 27, 2022; 1
- 2 correct?
- 3 A. Correct.
- 4 Q. This is for \$973.68; correct?
- 5 A. Correct.
- 6 Q. And if we go to the summary page, we listed that there 7
 - properly; correct?
- 8 A. Correct.
- 9 Q. If we look at Bates No. 499, this is a document with
- 10 Exigent Landscaping's letterhead; correct?
- 11 A. Correct.
- 12 Q. It says "Receipt," and it's dated October 24, 2022;
- 13 correct?
- 14 A. Correct.
- 15 Q. So tell me what we're looking at here.
- 16 A. So that was a receipt, it appears, that we paid this
- 17 guy for work on that property, and it appears that
- 18 we -- some -- or whoever put this thing together
- 19 didn't calculate correctly 'cause the rest of it
- 20 should have been paid. Looks like this is half of it
- 21
- 22 Q. Okay. But here it shows that you paid half; you paid
- 23 6,832.50; right?
- 24 A. Correct.
- 25 Q. Okay. And below that, it shows a remaining balance of

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- 1 the same amount; correct?
- 2 A. Correct.
- 3 Q. Whose signature is that from Exigent?
- 4 A. Not sure.
- 5 Q. Okay.
- 6 A. Assuming my CFO, Dan.
- 7 Q. What's Dan's last name?
- 8 A. Othlof.
- 9 Q. How do you spell that?
- 10 A. O-t-h-l-o-f.
- 11 Q. Okay. Going to the summary page. We listed that
- 12 accurately; correct?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Here we're looking at Bates No. 500. This is -- it's
- an invoice from A&G Construction billed to Kody
- 16 Grandchamp of Exigent Design of November 4, 2022;
- 17 correct?
- 18 A. Yep.
- 19 Q. In the amount of \$10,703.75; correct?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. And can you tell me, by looking at this invoice, what
- this was for?
- 23 A. Looks like excavation of the pool, lazy river.
- 24 Q. So they dug the hole; correct?
- 25 A. Yes, one of them.

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- $1\ \ Q.$ And then what? They deliver some type of stone; is
- 2 that right?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. What was the stone for?
- 5 A. The base, the floor.
- 6 Q. Okay. And was this paid?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And if we go back to the summary, it's listed properly
- 9 there, "A&G Construction, \$10,703.75," Bates No. 500;
- 10 correct?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And Bates No. 501, this appears to be the other half
- for JP Pools, of 6,832, and then some other items;
- 14 correct?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Here -- we have it on here. This is not correct.
- 17 This says "180.40," which it should say "7,012.90";
- 18 correct?
- 19 A. That's correct.
- 20 Q. So this needs to be fixed. That's Exhibit I. So
- 21 Exhibit I, JP Pools, Bates 501, 7,012.90 instead of
- 22 \$180.40; correct?
- 23 A. Yes.
- $\,$ 24 $\,$ Q. $\,$ I'm looking at Bates No. 502. This is from Fergeson,
- dated November 14, 2022, which just says "Counter

- 1 pickup"; correct?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Total amount, 1,448.44. Do you see that?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And can you tell me by looking at this document what
- 6 was purchased?
- 7 MR. PHILLIPS: Can you zoom in, Jeff,
- 8 please. Thank you.
- 9 THE WITNESS: Looks like a bunch of glue
- 10 for plywood.
- 11 BY MR. BIGELMAN:
- 12 O. Glue?
- 13 A. Yeah, plumbing glue.
- 14 Q. This document -- I can make it a little bit smaller.
- 15 Is that -- just looking at it, that would tie it to
- 16 921 Crescent?
- 17 A. Yes. It looks like project managers or operation
- 18 managers would be responsible for putting the job name
- on there, and it looks like they did that, and my CFO
- 20 put that towards his project.
- 21 Q. Okay. And if we look at the summary, we have
- 22 "Fergeson, \$1,448.44," Bates No. 502; correct?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. I have another Home Depot receipt, which is dated
- 25 December 15, '22. "Job description, 921 Crescent";
 - Page 45

- 1 correct?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. \$406.97; correct?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And if we go back to the summary page, it's accurately
- 6 reflected there; correct?
- 7 A. Yes.

9

- 8 Q. So if we look at Bates No. 507, this is a document
 - from Messina, Inc., Concrete; correct?
- 10 A. Correct.
- 11 Q. Grand total is \$16,782.45; correct?
- 12 A. What you got highlighted there, yes.
- 13 Q. And the -- the credit card receipt shows payments of
- 14 2,850.87; correct?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And that's also reflected right here or highlighted
- where it says "Total." Same amount; correct?
- 18 A. Looks like it, yes.
- 19 Q. So help me out here. What was paid? Was it the
- 20 2,850.87 or 16,782.45?
- 21 MR. PHILLIPS: Jeff, can you zoom out so we
 - can see the entirety of the document, please. Thank
- 23 you.

- 24 THE WITNESS: Honestly, I believe the total
- amount paid was the 26 figure. It might have been

- in -- he might have been paying per truck. He might
- 2 have been paying -- I think he shot some shotcrete --
- 3 going off memory, I think we shot some shotcrete one
- 4 day and then came back and shot some more shotcrete
- 5 the next day. Maybe that's why they charged it in
- 6 payments, but my mind's telling me that 26 number is
- 7 what was paid by Moe.
- 8 MR. BIGELMAN: Okay.
- 9 BY MR. BIGELMAN:
- 10 Q. So looking at the summary sheet, the summary sheet
- reflects the 16,782.45; correct?
- 12 A. Correct.
- 13 Q. And you think that maybe should be changed to
- 14 26,837.61; is that correct?
- 15 A. Correct.
- 16 Q. Is there any other documentation that would
- substantiate this figure?
- 18 A. No, not that we would have or I would have.
- 19 O. Next one I'm looking at, Bates 508.
- 20 A. Okay.
- 21 Q. This is San Marino Iron company dated March 16, 2023,
- for 921 Crescent Drive; correct?
- 23 A. Correct.
- 24 Q. It shows budget numbers: first, structural aluminum
- bridge for a total of 24,000; second, structural

- 1 Q. This is for hourly workers; is that right?
- 2 A. Correct.
- 3 Q. And if we look at the first one, you broke it down by
- 4 worker, Jesus Soria; correct?
- 5 A. Yep.
- 6 Q. And I summed up the amounts here to \$2,117.51. Do you
- 7 see that?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. That's consistent with the summary page here; correct?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Next employee, Thomas Galindo, \$1,142.60; correct?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. And looking at the summary page, that information is
- 14 accurate; correct?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Next employee, Aldo Barajas Tello, T-e-l-l-o,
- 17 \$7,033.95; correct?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And -- correct?
- 20 A. I didn't hear you there.
- 21 Q. Aldo Barajas Tello, \$7,033.95, is reflected accurately
- on the summary page; correct?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Next employee, Sergio Esquivel, E-s-q-u-i-v-e-l,
- 25 \$5,309.56; correct?

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- 1 aluminum grotto for a total of 44,000; correct?
- 2 A. Correct.
- 3 Q. Was -- looks like it's the second page. There's a
- 4 second page here. It shows a total of 68,000.
- 5 There's no signatures on the page. Was this amount
- 6 ever paid to San Marino, the total amount or a lesser
- 7 amount or none, if you know?
- 8 A. None. That's just an estimate, it looks like. We
- 9 never engaged them on that project.
- 10 Q. Okay. Going to the summary page, I have "San Marino
- 11 Iron company of 68,000," Bates No. 508. That should
- be removed: correct?
- 13 A. Correct.
- 14 Q. Then for labor, if you remember, employee time records
- at Bates 522, and if you go to Bates 522, it says
- 16 "Native document placeholder," and that refers us to
- 17 a -- to an Excel spreadsheet that was provided. We
- saved this in PDF. So the top of it says, "Time clock
- 19 export, exported on Tuesday, November 19, 2024." Did
- you have some way for your employees to check in,
- 21 check out? Is that what we're looking at?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. Okay.
- 24 A. For -- to clarify, for laborers and foremen,
- 25 specifically. Salary employees didn't.

1 A. Yes.

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- 2 Q. And that's properly reflected on the summary page;
- 3 correct?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. (Technical difficulties) -- costs, zero. Do you see
- 6 that?

- 7 THE COURT REPORTER: I think your question
- 8 may have cut out.
 - MR. BIGELMAN: Oh, I'm sorry.
- 10 BY MR. BIGELMAN:
- 11 Q. It says "Name, Edward Guest." Is that a real name or
- 2 just a placeholder?
- 13 A. Honestly, no idea, but I don't have an -- never had an
- 14 employee named Edward Guest.
- 15 Q. Okay. And in any event, it says "Builder cost, zero";
- 16 correct?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Next one, Arturo Ramos?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. \$1,704.40; correct?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. That's accurately reflected on the summary page;
- 23 correct?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 MR. PHILLIPS: Jeff, can you give me one



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1 A. Yes.

4 A. Yes.

7 A. Correct.

that money.

BY MR. BIGELMAN:

BY MR. BIGELMAN:

O. Go ahead and answer.

He's just thinking.

- 1 second? Someone popped into my Teams meeting. It's
- 2 showing up on my computer. I just got to close it.
- 3 All right. We're good.
- 4 BY MR. BIGELMAN:
- 5 Q. Next one, Joe Edmonds, and "Builder cost, zero";
- 6
- 7 A. "Builder cost, zero," where?
- 8 Q. Right here.
- 9 A. Can't see.
- 10 O. See it?
- 11 A. Yeah. Based on that document, it looks like it should
- 12 not be zero, but, yeah.
- 13 Q. Misael Pineda, M-i-s-a-e-l. Last name, P-i-n-e-d-a.
- 14 "Total, 643.20." Do you see that?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. That's accurately reflected on the summary; correct?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Eddy Hernandez, "\$1,016.76"; correct?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. That -- again, that's accurately reflected on the
- 21 summary page; correct?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. Next one, I believe, Noe, N-o-e, Ortega, O-r-t-e-g-a,
- "\$830.84"; correct? 24
- 25 A. Yes.

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- every one of those documents.
- MR. PHILLIPS: What's the question?

2 Q. Then Messina, the invoice said 16,782.45, but there

that needs to be removed; correct?

was a handwritten notation for 26,837.61; correct?

Q. So we need to adjust that. And San Marino for 68,000,

8 Q. Okay. So it brings me to my question. My client paid

you directly -- when I say "you," I mean Exigent

for -- you're not able to account for even half of

O. So my question is where did the rest of the money go? MR. PHILLIPS: Foundation. Form.

MR. PHILLIPS: You can answer.

orchestrated from, but there's missing -- missing

THE WITNESS: I don't know where this was

MR. PHILLIPS: Foundation.

Landscaping -- \$350,000, and we're not even accounting

3 BY MR. BIGELMAN:

stuff on here.

BY MR. BIGELMAN:

Q. The question is Exigent Landscaping received \$350,000,

Q. This is your discovery response. We just looked at

- 5 and it can only account for maybe half of the money it
- 6 received, so where did the rest of the money go?
 - MR. PHILLIPS: Again, same objection,
- 8 foundation. You haven't established what it can and
- 9 can't account for. You're giving him an incomplete
- 10 recitation of his interrogatory response. You haven't
- 11 laid a proper foundation.
- 12 BY MR. BIGELMAN:
- Q. Go ahead and answer.
- 14 A. I don't understand the question.
- Q. You received -- when I say "you," Exigent Landscaping
- 16 received \$350,000 from my client. The total summary,
- 17 before we make adjustments, amounts to 183,000 and
- 18 change before we back out the \$68,000 that San Marino
- 19 Iron never received and make, you know, minor
- 21 \$130,000 of the \$350,000 that you received. Where did

adjustments, you know, elsewhere. You're at about

- 22 the rest of the money go?
- 23 A. A vast majority of it went into overhead, fuel.
- There's a lot of receipts that we weren't able to get 24
 - from suppliers. Keep in mind, this happened over

1 Q. That's accurately reflected on the summary page,

- 2
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Okay. So one more question. Based on your
- 5 interrogatory response, Exigent also paid a sales
- 6 commission of two and a half percent of the project
- 7 cost to Avery Petri. Is that an accurate statement?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. So that would have been, what, two and a half percent
- 10 of what number?
- 11 A. I believe it was a full, total deal of 556- or
- 12 whatever it was.
- 13 Q. By my math, that's 13,900. Does that sound right?
- MR. PHILLIPS: Can the witness check on his 14
- 15 calculator?
- 16 BY MR. BIGELMAN:
- 17 Q. In the summary, I have it at 13,788.63.
- A. We might have split the cost of the commission, 'cause 18
- 19 I assisted on the deal or something like that, if the
- 20 number doesn't line up.
- 21 Q. All right. So this summary is pretty accurate. We
- 22 have to fix JP Pools, Bates No. 501. It should go
- 23 from 180.40 to \$7,012.90; correct?
- 24 A. JP Pools?
- 25 Q. Yep.



- 07/22/2025 1 three years ago and over a year and a half after my 1 O. And when we talk about the -- how did you describe it. 2 corporation filed bankruptcy, and this is just what I the piece that was cracked? What's the term you used? 3 have on a personal level based on what my team logged. 3 A. Mr. Saad was very vague, and he just said there was a 4 Q. When you say "overhead," what do you mean by 4 crack in his limestone piece, and he felt 5 "overhead"? 5 uncomfortable. 6 A. Equipment that was used on the project, fuel used to 6 Q. Well, he was referring to this big piece here; go to and from the project, and fuel used for the 7 correct? 7 8 equipment on the project, fuel used by --8 A. I have no idea. He didn't describe that. 9 Q. When --Q. Is this limestone that I'm pointing at here, that 10 MR. PHILLIPS: He's still answering the 10 covers the grotto? 11 A. Yes. 11 question. 12 THE WITNESS: -- fuel used by project 12 Q. How much does this -- how much would this piece have 13 managers, operations managers, videographer, runners, 13 14 drivers, employees sometimes, and that's going off 14 A. I don't recall the exact pounds. 10,000 plus off 15 memory. 15 memory. My engineer has it. 16 BY MR. BIGELMAN: 16 Q. Okay. Q. When you say "overhead," would that include office 17 MR. BIGELMAN: All right. Do you guys want 17 18 rent, utilities, salaries, stuff like that? 18 to take a break here for about 15, 20 minutes? 19 A. Correct. 19 MR. PHILLIPS: Yeah. Jeff, I don't know --20 20 Q. Why did my client fire you? well, let me -- we're off the record? 21 MR. PHILLIPS: Calls for speculation. He 21 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are going off the 22 22 can't read Mr. Saad's mind. record at 12:10 p.m. 23 BY MR. BIGELMAN: 23 (Off the record at 12:10 p.m.) 24 Q. Did my client ever -- my client Mr. Saad -- did he 24 (Back on the record at 12:24 p.m.) ever express to you why he fired you? 25 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are back on the 25 Page 55 1 A. Yeah. I believe he said there was a crack in the record at 12:24 p.m. 1 limestone, which he was unwilling for me to look at, 2 BY MR. BIGELMAN: 2 3 correct, or even show me proof of. 3 Q. Mr. Heitmann, have you ever been criminally charged 4 Q. This would have been the limestone in the grotto; 4 with anything? 5 5 A. Charged? Yes. correct? 6 A. So he claimed, yes. 6 Q. What have you been charged with? Q. How big would that piece of limestone have been? 7 A. I believe it was fraud. 7 8 O. In connection with what? 8 A. Based off memory --9 A. In my opinion, contractual dispute. 9 MR. PHILLIPS: Which piece are you speaking 10 of, Jeff? 10 Q. Who made the complaint? BY MR. BIGELMAN: 11 11 A. Made the complaint... I signed a 12 non-confidentiality agreement on that. I don't think 12 Q. I'm going to show you guys Exhibit CC. 13 MR. PHILLIPS: You got a line of 13 I need to disclose that. 14 14 MR. PHILLIPS: Hold on, Jeff. Just give me questioning, but I could use a restroom break when you 15 one second with the client. Go off the record. Yeah, 15 get an opportunity. 16 MR. BIGELMAN: Let's just finish this, and 16 give me one second to talk to him. then we'll take a break. 17 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: I'm sorry. Did you say 18
- 17 18 MR. PHILLIPS: Fair enough.
- 19 MARKED BY THE REPORTER:
- 20 DEPOSITION EXHIBIT CC
- 21 12:09 p.m.
- 22 BY MR. BIGELMAN:
- 23 Q. Is this an accurate depiction of how you left
- 24 Mr. Saad's house -- his pool, rather?
- 25 A. Yeah, I believe so.

- you wanted to go off?
- We are going off the record at 12:26 p.m.
- 20 (Off the record at 12:26 p.m.)
- 21 (Back on the record at 12:26 p.m.)
 - THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are back on the
- 23 record at 12:26 p.m.
- 24 MR. PHILLIPS: Jeff, just for the record,
- 25 without waiving privilege, I was just speaking to my

19

Brandon Heitmann

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Pages Page

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- 1 client and discussing that civil things may be subject
- 2 to a confidentiality agreement. Any public criminal
- 3 proceedings would not be, and so that I advised him to
- 4 answer questions with respect to public criminal
- 5 proceedings, but with respect to any civil proceedings
- 6 against those particular plaintiffs, we do have a
- 7 confidentiality agreement.
- 8 BY MR. BIGELMAN:
- Q. Okay. So in regard to criminal charges brought by the 9
- 10 State of Michigan or one of its municipalities, what
- 11 was the basis of the charge?
- 12 A. Fraud.
- 13 Q. Right. Fraud in connection with what?
- 14 A. In my opinion a -- a civil dispute -- I mean -- I'm
- 15 sorry -- a contractual dispute.
- 16 Q. What were the allegations of fraud?
- A. I think they were alleging that I took a deposit and 17
- 18 wasn't gonna build a pool.
- Q. Were there any allegations of you contracting to build 19

building without a license, no contest or something.

A. Court... I think Shelby Township or Macomb. I'm

- 20 a pool without a residential builder's license?
- 21 A. I believe so.

not sure.

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- 22 Q. And what was the main complaint? What was the
- 23 customer's name?
- 24 A. Joseph and Angela Hebeka.

O. What court was this in?

- 25 Q. Did you get convicted of these charges?
- Page 59 1 A. If I remember correctly, the fraud charges, no, and

7

- 2
- 3 attorney provided this to me yesterday. Are you
- 4 familiar with this formal complaint?
- MR. BIGELMAN: Is that right, Tyler?
- 7 MR. PHILLIPS: It was -- I don't know if it
- 8 was in district or circuit. I think it might have
- 9 been -- it was in Macomb County or Shelby, one of the
- 10 two, the district court there. I didn't handle the
- 11 criminal, so I can't really tell you.
- 12 BY MR. BIGELMAN:
- 13 Q. Did you receive jail time, probation, a fine? What
- happened? What was the punishment? 14
- 15 A. Eight months' nonreporting probation, if I remember
- 16 correctly.
- 17 Q. Give me one second, please. Do you recall what year
- 18 the case was?
- 19 A. I think 2024.
- 20 Q. What we're looking at here, this is out of Shelby
- 21 Township 41A District Court, case ID 23-23-1450-FYFY.
- 22 False pretenses, \$50,000 or more but less than a
- 23 hundred thousand?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And a plea of nolo contendere; is that right?

- 1 A. Not sure what that means, but sounds about right.
- 2 O. Nolo contendere is consistent with no contest.
- 3 A. Okay. Yes.
- 4 Q. There's another one, 23-23-1332-FYFY, same charge,
- false pretenses. Plea, nolo contendere. Somehow you 5
- 6 got it reduced to disorderly person. Is that
- 7 accurate?
- 8 A. Yes.
- Q. Any other charges aside from what we just spoke about?
- 10 A. Just small stuff when I was, like, 18.
- 11 Q. Okay. Anything else involving fraud?
- 12 A. No.

16

- 13 Q. This screen is going to be marked as Exhibit K. This
- 14 is a residential builder's license look-up website.
- 15 Is that your builder's license there, 242300197?
 - MARKED BY THE REPORTER:
- 17 DEPOSITION EXHIBIT K
 - 12:36 p.m.
- 19 A. I don't know it off memory, but based on the document
- 20 you're showing me, it looks correct.
- 21 Q. Okay. It's got your name here; right?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. License issued March 28, 2023; correct?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. It's currently suspended; correct?
- 1 A. Correct.
 - Q. License complaint is against the company. Your
- 5 A. Yeah.
- Q. Paragraph 19, formal complaint, states that -- this is
 - the allegation. It goes, "Contract with the
- 8 homeowners included a license number of 802082183 that
- 9 does not correspond to a residential builder or
- 10 maintenance and alteration contractor license number
- 11 issued by the department. Was signed on behalf of
- 12 Exigent by an unlicensed salesperson and does not
- 13 contain information regarding a qualified officer."
- 14 Did I read that allegation properly?
- 15 A. Yes.
- Q. Allegation 20, "To obtain a building permit for the 16
- 17 construction, Respondents or someone on their behalf
- 18 submitted a permit application to Macomb County, which
- 19 stated that another company, which was duly licensed
- 20 as a residential builder under the occupational code,
- 21 was the contractor for homeowners' project." Did I
- 22 read that properly?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Allegation 21, "The application, which was dated
- 25 October 6, 2021, included the other company's name,

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- 1 license number, and expiration date in the spots for
- 2 contractor," slash, "applicant name, builder's license
- 3 number, and expiration date; however, the contract
- 4 e-mail address was for someone at
- 5 exigentdesignbuild.com and the contact phone number
- 6 was the same number Respondents used on their contract
- 7 with homeowners." Did I read that properly?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Paragraph 22, "Despite what was stated on the permit
- application, the other company was not the contractor 10
- 11 for the project. Neither it nor its qualified officer
- 12 performed construction on the project, and they did
- 13 not have a contract with the homeowners." Did I read
- 14 that properly?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Paragraph 23, "The building permit was issued to the
- other company, Construction Contractors, LLC, on 17
- 18 October 28, 2021"; correct?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. Paragraph 24, "Despite not being licensed, as required
- 21 by the code, Respondents received payment from the
- 22. homeowners and performed the construction on the
- 23 Chaucer Court home." Did I read that properly?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Who is the owner of the Chaucer Court home?
- 1 your contracts, purporting it to be a license number?

let's go down your rabbit hole.

- 2 What business license?
- 3 A. The business of Exigent that was registered with LARA. to the fact pattern in our case here with Mr. Saad?
 - 4 Q. What business license? What business license did LARA 5 give you?

You had a contract with said License No. 802082183,

A. Because the contract wasn't with just Mohamed. It was

main point of contact through most of the project. I

agree with 19, the license number, it was -- it was on

MR. PHILLIPS: Are you asking a question,

MR. BIGELMAN: Okay. Let's go down --

Q. What business license did Exigent have that you put on

15 O. Correct. The license number wasn't the license number

Q. No. There is no such thing as a business license.

or are you making an affirmative statement to the

with OJ, who was a licensed residential builder and my

and it didn't correspond to any license; correct?

MARKED BY THE REPORTER:

DEPOSITION EXHIBIT L

THE WITNESS: I disagree.

MR. PHILLIPS: Form.

the same contract but -- yeah.

12:43 p.m.

8 BY MR. BIGELMAN:

at all; correct?

witness?

24 BY MR. BIGELMAN:

17 A. It was a business license.

Q. Why do you disagree?

- 6 A. I believe it was that one --
 - 7 O. What --

14

17

- 8 A. -- that was listed --
- 9 Q. A license to do what?
- 10 A. Do business.
- 11 Q. Just as with the formal complaint, Exigent couldn't
- 12 get a building permit in its own name, so you used a
- 13 third party; correct?
 - MR. PHILLIPS: Form.
- 15 BY MR. BIGELMAN:
- 16 O. Answer the question.
 - MR. PHILLIPS: If you understand it.
- 18 THE WITNESS: According to the document in
- front of me, yes. 19
- 20 BY MR. BIGELMAN:
- Q. Paragraph 21, here the allegation was -- basically
- 22 everything on the application -- contractor, applicant
- 23 name, builder's license number, expiration date -- was
- 24 for a third party, but the contact e-mail was for
- 25 exigentdesignbuild.com, and if you recall, we looked

1 A. Daniel Carter.

- Q. Would you agree that this fact pattern is very similar 2 3
- 4 A. Can you ask the question again, please.
- Q. Would you agree that this fact pattern, in
- 6 paragraphs 19 through 24, is very similar to the fact
- 7 pattern with Mr. Saad?
- 8 A. Similar.
- 9 Q. Similar, right. Paragraph 19, "He had a contract with
- 10 a said license number, 802082183, which did not
- 11 correspond to a residential builder or a maintenance
- 12 and alteration contractor license number"; correct?
- 13 A. Correct.
- 14 Q. Yet you got somebody else to apply for a building 15 permit; correct?
- 16 MR. PHILLIPS: Are you asking the document,
- 17 or are you asking him to admit the allegation?
- 18 MR. BIGELMAN: I'm talking about in our 19 case with Mr. Saad.
- 20 MR. PHILLIPS: I don't understand your 21 question. Can you rephrase.
- 22 MR. BIGELMAN: Sure.
- 23 BY MR. BIGELMAN:
- 24 Q. Just as in with this formal complaint, Exhibit L, the
- 25 allegation in 19, same thing happened with Mr. Saad.

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at the e-mail on all of those applications, and it document application, October 24, 2022"; correct? always went back to brandonheitmann12@yahoo or 2 A. Yes. 3 Q. Once again, paragraph 17, contractor name, 3 exigentdesignbuild; correct? 4 MR. PHILLIPS: Compound. "Construction Contractors"; right? 5 Go on if you understand. 6 THE WITNESS: What was the question? 6 Q. Company e-mail, exigentlandscaping@yahoo.com; correct? 7 MR. BIGELMAN: (Technical difficulties), 8 Q. Phone number, paragraph 20, "586-489-6680." Whose 8 please. 9 number is that? MR. PHILLIPS: He asked you what the 10 A. Amanda's. 10 question was. Oh, you're asking the court reporter. Q. And we were talking about paragraph 21 before, and Sorry, Jeff. 11 11 12 (The court reporter read back the previous 12 just like in the case in the formal complaint, third 13 parties, contractor name, license number, but the question at 12:47 a.m.) 13 14 contact e-mail address for your company, contact phone 14 MR. PHILLIPS: Same objection. 15 Go ahead, if you know. 15 number for your company; correct? 16 MR. PHILLIPS: Form. **16** THE WITNESS: I'm going off of 21. I mean, yeah, you're reading what is in front of me on 21. My 17 BY MR. BIGELMAN: 17 attorney handled most of this, and I don't remember 18 O. Answer the question. 19 even looking through this. Well, I remember briefly, 19 MR. PHILLIPS: If you know. 20 THE WITNESS: What is the question? but it was, like, three years ago, four years ago. 21 21 MR. BIGELMAN: Could you please repeat it. MR. BIGELMAN: No problem. We will refresh 22 (The court reporter read back the previous 22 your memory. If you want to stretch it out, we'll 23 question at 12:51 p.m.) stretch it out. We can play that game. 24 MR. PHILLIPS: Form. If you know. 24 MR. PHILLIPS: Jeff, can you please keep THE WITNESS: I don't understand the 25 25 your comments to questions rather than badgering my Page 69 question. Is it a question or a statement? 1 1 client. 2 BY MR. BIGELMAN: 2 BY MR. BIGELMAN: Q. Okay. Let's look here, Exhibit C, "Swimming Pool Q. If you don't answer the question, we're gonna continue Permit Application," dated August 31, '22. Do you see 4 this exam without a date, or we're going to go in 5 that? 5 front of a judge and --6 A. Yes. 6 MR. PHILLIPS: He says he doesn't 7 Q. Contractor information, Construction Contractors, 7 understand your question, Jeff. Ask a better question 8 signature purportedly by Hank Bell -- he disputes he 8 that he understands. The witness said he didn't 9 ever signed it -- his license number. Then we go to 9 understand your question, so ask a better question. 10 10 Your question doesn't make any sense. So you can go the next page, e-mail address, 11 "bheitmann12@yahoo.com." Do you see that? 11 in front of the judge all you want, but until you ask 12 A. Yes. 12 a better question that the witness understands -- he's 13 Q. Okay. Whose phone number is 586-383-8308? 13 not refusing to understand. He's saying he doesn't 14 14 A. Exigent. Exigent's old number. understand it, so ask a better question. 15 MR. BIGELMAN: You're gonna make a real 15 Q. Mm-hmm. Let's go look at Exhibit D. It says "Revised 16 16 documents application, dated September 29, '22"; poor witness. I can tell you that. 17 correct? 17 MR. PHILLIPS: Thanks for your opinion. 18 18 A. Yes. No, I'm familiar with the --Limit your comments to questions. Quit badgering my 19 19 (Interruption.) client. Quit (indiscernible) --20 Q. Line 17, "Construction Contractors"? 20 (Simultaneous speakers.) 21 MR. BIGELMAN: Calm down. Calm down. Calm 21 A. Yes. 22 22 Q. Paragraph 22, e-mail address, down, and stop interfering with my exam. 23 "exigentlandscaping@yahoo.com"; right? 23 MR. PHILLIPS: Ask a better question. 24 24 A. Yes. MR. BIGELMAN: Shush. 25 25 Q. Let's go look at Exhibit E. This says "Revised MR. PHILLIPS: It's enough from you, too.

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1 BY MR. BIGELMAN:

- 2 Q. Back to paragraph 21. We just looked at Exhibits C,
- 3 D, and E. Do you recall, or do you want to look at
- 4 them again?

5 A. I do recall that.

- 6 Q. On Exhibits C, D, and E, you had a third-party
- 7 contractor applying for a permit, and you had your
- 8 contact e-mail and your phone number; correct?
- 9 A. Correct.
- 10 O. And Mr. Saad's case, 921 Crescent, Construction
- 11 Contractors was not -- was not the contractor on the
- 12 project. Exigent Landscaping was; correct?
- 13 A. Correct.
- 14 Q. And Mr. Saad's job, at 921 Crescent, a building permit
- 15 was issued to Construction Contractors and not Exigent
- 16 Landscaping; correct?
- 17 A. Correct.
- 18 Q. And despite not being licensed, Exigent Landscaping
- 19 received payments from Mr. Saad; correct?
- 20 MR. PHILLIPS: Foundation and form --
- 21 sorry, I wasn't finished. Foundation and form.
- Go ahead.
- 23 THE WITNESS: Correct.
- 24 BY MR. BIGELMAN:
- 25 Q. That formal complaint we were looking at had

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- 1 Complaint Nos. 2300623 and 2200622. Do you see that?
 - Complaint Nos. 2300023 and 2200022. Do you s
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. And you entered into a consent order and stipulation
- 4 resolving that complaint, the same complaint numbers;
- 5 correct?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And this states, first sentence, paragraph 2, "The
- 8 parties have stipulated that the board may enter this
- 9 consent order"; correct? Do you see that?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. "Therefore, the board finds that the allegations of
- fact contained in the formal complaint are true and
- Respondents have violated" -- we'll start with the
- 14 first one -- "Section 6011 of the occupational code."
- 15 6011 of the occupational code, "Person shall not
- engage in or attempt to engage in the practice of an
- occupation regulated under this act or use a title
- designated in this act unless the person possesses a
- license or registration used by the department for
- their occupation"; correct?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. That's what you agreed to; correct?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Then you also agreed to having violated 604(d).
- 25 604(d), "lack of good moral character"; correct?

- 1 A. According to the document, yes.
- 2 Q. That's what you stipulated to; right?
- 3 A. According to the document in front of me. I don't
- 4 remember this that much. It was a long time ago.
- 5 Q. You also stipulated to 604(h), violated any other
- 6 provision of the act or rule, and (1), not to respond
- 7 to citation as required by Section 555. What else do
- 8 we have? 2411 (2)(e), 2(j), 2(m), "A willful
- 9 violation of the building laws of the State or the
- 10 subdivision of the State"; correct?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. 2411 (2)(j), "Aiding or abetting an unlicensed person
- 13 to evade this article or knowingly combining or
- 14 conspiring with or acting as an agent, partner, or
- 15 associate of an unlicensed person, allowing one's
- license to be used by an unlicensed person, or acting
- as or being an obstensible licensed or residential
- 18 builder or licensed contractor, licensed residential
- 19 maintenance or alteration contractor for an
- 20 undisclosed person who does not or shall control,
- 21 direct" -- "may have the right to control or direct,
- directly or indirectly, the operations of licensee";
- 23 correct?
- 24 A. Correct.
- 25 Q. "Workmanship not meeting the standards of the Michigan

Page 73

1 residential code"; correct?

- 2 A. I don't know. Was that on there? Okay.
- 3 Q. We also have 2404(a), "Licensee shall, as part of the
- 4 contract, provide information relating to his or her
- 5 individual license and to any license issued to that
- 6 person as a qualifying officer of another entity";
- 7 correct?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Michigan Administrative Code, Rule 338.1551 (5), "All
- 10 construction, renovations, alterations, or repairs
- must comply with Michigan construction code"; correct?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. Then you had another license complaint -- two more --
- 14 Complaint No. 2300616 and 2300759, which was also
- resolved by consent order and stipulation; correct?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And here, again, it's almost exactly the same. "The
- board finds that the allegations of fact contained in
- 19 the formal complaint are true and the Respondents have
- 20 violated Section 604(1), 2411(2)(e), 2411(2)(j),
- 21 2404(a), and 604(h) of the occupational code";
- 22 correct?
- 23 MARKED BY THE REPORTER:
- 24 DEPOSITION EXHIBIT M
- 25 1:03 p.m.

Brandon Heitmann

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1

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- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. As a result of these complaints, your residential
- 3 builder's license has been suspended; correct?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Do you recall being sued by Alex and Rebecca Boyd?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Paragraph 16, they allege that your contract with
- 8 them, you had "License No. 802082183." Do you see
- 9 that?
- 10 MARKED BY THE REPORTER:
- 11 DEPOSITION EXHIBIT T
- 12 1:04 p.m.
- MR. PHILLIPS: No. The document's not on
- the screen, Jeff.
- MR. BIGELMAN: Oh, I'm sorry.
- 16 BY MR. BIGELMAN:
- 17 Q. Do you see it now?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Sixteen; correct?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. And they allege that Exigent was never a licensed
- 22 residential builder during their relationship with the
- 23 Boyds; correct?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. And in paragraph 18, that they paid a substantial
 - Page 75

1

- 1 portion of their respective contract price to Exigent;
- 2 correct?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. In paragraph 19, they allege that "After execution of
- 5 the contract with the Boyds, the Defendants knowingly
- 6 and falsely represented the Macomb Township officials,
- 7 that the Plaintiff executed documents with Defendant
- 8 Construction Contractors, LLC, and Henry Girard Bell."
- 9 That's what they allege; correct?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Paragraph 20, this was also for the construction of an
- in-ground swimming pool; correct?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Paragraph 21, allege that Exigent "failed to timely or
- properly construct the swimming pool, necessitating
- the removal of their respective pools"; correct?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And you were also sued by Joseph and Angela Hebeka;
- 19 correct?
- 20 MARKED BY THE REPORTER:
- 21 DEPOSITION EXHIBIT U
- 22 1:06 p.m.
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. You can see that on the screen it's marked as
- Exhibit U. For the record, the Boyd exhibit was

- Exhibit T. Here they allege, at paragraph 13, that
- the contract listed a license number of 802082183,
- 3 which is not a license number at all. That's what
- 4 they allege; correct?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And then they allege, at paragraph 14, "Michigan law
- 7 requires an individual or entity to be licensed as a
- 8 residential builder when engaging in swimming pool
- 9 installation or alteration"; correct?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Then they claim, paragraph 15, that "Exigent
- fraudulently held itself out as a licensed
- 13 contractor"; correct?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Paragraph 16, that you fraudulently held yourself out
- as a licensed contractor; correct?
- 17 A. Yes.
- MR. PHILLIPS: You're asking if that's what
- 19 they allege?
- 20 MR. BIGELMAN: That's correct.
- 21 BY MR. BIGELMAN:
- 22 Q. Exhibit V, this is a complaint by Daniel Cater. Is
- that how you say it?
- 24 MARKED BY THE REPORTER:
- 25 DEPOSITION EXHIBIT V

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- 1:07 p.m.
- 2 A. That's a typo. It's meant to be "Carter."
- 3 Q. Okay. Daniel Carter alleges, at paragraph 9, that
- 4 your contract with him, stated at the bottom of each
- 5 page, that License No. 802082183 inferred that Exigent
- 6 was a licensed residential builder. That's his
- 7 allegation; correct?
- 8 A. Correct.
- 9 Q. Paragraph 10, he alleges that neither you or Exigent
- 10 was a licensed residential builder during their --
- during the relationship with him; correct?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. Paragraph 11, he alleges that during the permit
- process, that you knowingly and falsely represented to
- 15 Macomb Township Building Officials that "Plaintiff
- 16 contracted with licensed residential builders
- 17 Construction Contractors and Henry Girard Bell";
- 18 correct?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. Paragraph 12, he alleges, "Based on said false
- 21 representations, Macomb Township Building Officials
- 22 approved permits for the construction of an in-ground
- swimming pool at Plaintiff's residence"; correct?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Paragraph 13, he alleges that "Plaintiff paid a

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- 2 Landscaping, LLC"; correct?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Then he alleges, at 14, that you "failed to properly
- 5 construct the swimming pool, necessitating the removal
- 6 of the pool and otherwise causing substantial monetary
- 7 damages to be suffered by the Plaintiff"; correct?
- 8 A. Yes, allegedly. That's what he's alleging.
- 9 MARKED BY THE REPORTER:
- 10 DEPOSITION EXHIBIT W
- 11 1:09 p.m.
- 12 Q. This is Exhibit W. These are your Responses to
- 13 Plaintiff's Requests for Admission, Third Set of
- 14 Interrogatories. I'm going to draw your attention to
- 15 Interrogatory 4, where I ask --
- MR. PHILLIPS: Put it on the screen,
- 17 please.
- 18 MR. BIGELMAN: Excuse me?
- MR. PHILLIPS: Put them on the screen.
- 20 please. Thank you.
- 21 MR. BIGELMAN: I'm sorry.
- 22 BY MR. BIGELMAN:
- 23 Q. Interrogatory 4, "Identify all projects since
- January 11, '21, where you have used a residential
- builder's license to obtain a permit that was not your
- own," and you took the Fifth Amendment in response to
- 2 that. Is that still your response to that question?
- 3 MR. PHILLIPS: I'm going to advise you to
- 4 continue that.
- 5 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 6 MR. BIGELMAN: Okay.
- 7 BY MR. BIGELMAN:
- 8 Q. Your wife testified earlier that when she first
- 9 started her company, Resilient Outdoor Living, that
- 10 that operated under your residential builder's
- 11 license. Is that correct?
- 12 A. No. We never actually operated. We never did

14 Q. Did you associate your license with Resilient Outdoor

- anything that required a permit or a license.
- Living, whether you did work or not?
- 16 A. I believe I did for a short period of time.
- 17 Q. How many different individuals have sued you or
- 18 Exigent in the past five years?
- 19 A. How many individual -- can you repeat that one more
- 20 time, please.
- 21 Q. How many individuals have sued you or Exigent in the
- 22 last five years?
- 23 A. I believe four.
- 24 Q. Well, we know three.
- 25 MR. PHILLIPS: Jeff, I think it was five.

- I'm just gonna cut to the chase on this.
- 2 MR. BIGELMAN: Okay.
- 3 MR. PHILLIPS: I think it was five.
- 4 THE WITNESS: Sounds about right.
- 5 BY MR. BIGELMAN:
- Q. We know it was three. We just looked at those
- 7 complaints, not counting my client, so that would be
- 8 four, and then I have another client, Mehra,
- 9 M-e-h-r-a, so that would be five. Are there any
- 10 others?

13

16

- 11 A. No, not that I can remember.
- 12 Q. Showing you what's being marked as Exhibit Y. This is
 - a license to do business in the city of Dearborn that
- 14 Construction Contractors obtained. Do you see that?
- 15 Can you see that, Mr. Heitmann?
 - MARKED BY THE REPORTER:
- 17 DEPOSITION EXHIBIT Y
- 18 1:14 p.m.
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. My question to you is did Exigent Landscaping ever
- 21 obtain a license to do business in the city of
- 22 Dearborn while it was working on Mr. Saad's property
- 23 at 921 Crescent?
- 24 A. Not that I can recall. At some point, when I got
- 25 licensed, I applied, but I don't know if it was before

Page 81

- 1 or after I was terminated. I can't remember.
- 2 Q. Did anyone ever issue a license for Exigent to do
- 3 business there?
- 4 A. Can you repeat that, please.
- 5 Q. Did the City of Dearborn ever issue a license for
- 6 Exigent Landscaping to do business in its town?
- 7 A. I don't remember. I don't recall.
- 8 MR. BIGELMAN: I don't have any more
- 9 questions, subject to redirect if you're gonna have
- 10 some questions.
- 11 MR. PHILLIPS: In ten minutes I'll find out
- 12 if I do.

14

16

- Can we go off the record.
 - THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are going off the
- 15 record at 1:16 p.m.
 - (Off the record at 1:16 p.m.)
 - (Back on the record at 1:21 p.m.)
- 18 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are back on the
- 19 record at 1:21 p.m.
- 20 EXAMINATION
- 21 BY MR. PHILLIPS:
- 22 Q. Brandon, just a couple quick questions. You have
- referred to Hank Bell as your uncle in the past. Why
- have you done that?
- 25 A. I viewed him as my uncle. I've known him for ten or



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1	fifteen years. He's technically my cousin's cousin or	1	MR. PHILLIPS: Yes. Can I do a four-page
2	something like that. He's been in the family for a	2	mini, please.
3	while, and I look to him as, like, a mentor. He was	3	(The deposition was concluded at 1:25 p.m.)
4	helping me throughout the permit process and was	4	,
5	helping me with my license and stuff.	5	
6	Q. Did Hank Bell or Construction Contractors review the	6	
7	permit drawings before they were submitted on this	7	
8	project?	8	
9	A. Yes. They were e-mailed to him.	9	
10		10	
11	authorize you to use their signature?	11	
	A. Yes.	12	
13		13	
14	previously, what did you mean by that?	14	
	A. I think I we had a we were working together to	15	
16	build projects. I wasn't officially a partner at his	16	
17	firm, but we were working together to build projects.	17	
18	I had his approval to work with him.	18	
19	Q. And, lastly	19	
20	MR. PHILLIPS: Jeff, if you could pop up	20	
21	Exhibit H. I believe that's the invoices for the	21	
22	trailer, the first one.	$\begin{vmatrix} 21\\22\end{vmatrix}$	
23	MR. BIGELMAN: Do you know which Bates	$\begin{vmatrix} 22\\23 \end{vmatrix}$	
24	number?	24	
25	MR. PHILLIPS: It was the very first page.	25	
23	was the very first page.	45	
	Page 83		Page 85
1	Page 83 I think it's probably 529, if I had to guess, but it's	1	Page 85 CERTIFICATE OF NOTARY
1 2		1 2	
	I think it's probably 529, if I had to guess, but it's		CERTIFICATE OF NOTARY
2	I think it's probably 529, if I had to guess, but it's the very first page, one of the ones with the blank	2	CERTIFICATE OF NOTARY STATE OF MICHIGAN)
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2 3 4	I think it's probably 529, if I had to guess, but it's the very first page, one of the ones with the blank "Ship to." MR. BIGELMAN: 369?	2 3 4	CERTIFICATE OF NOTARY STATE OF MICHIGAN)) SS COUNTY OF OAKLAND) I, Susanne Ellen Gorman, a Notary Public in
2 3 4 5	I think it's probably 529, if I had to guess, but it's the very first page, one of the ones with the blank "Ship to." MR. BIGELMAN: 369? MR. PHILLIPS: Yeah, that will work. Okay.	2 3 4 5	CERTIFICATE OF NOTARY STATE OF MICHIGAN)) SS COUNTY OF OAKLAND)
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		12:47 66:13
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\$1,142.60 48:11	(2)(j) 72:12	13 76:1 77:25
\$1,448.44 44:22	(5) 73:9	13,788.63 51:17
\$1,704.40 49:20	(I) 72:6	13,900 51:13
\$10,703.75 42:19 43:9		14 25:4 43:25 76:6 78:4
\$100,000 24:21		15 27:7 28:16 44:25 56:18 76:11
\$130,000 53:21	1 13:16 17:3,8,14 22:12 24:8,13,	16 46:21 74:7 76:15
\$15 20:2	17 26:7 27:7	16,782.45 45:20 46:11 52:2
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\$23,500 37:13	10-24-22 22:6	19 39:25 47:19 61:6 63:6,9,25
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\$42 20:2	10:36 10:18	1:07 77:1
\$5,309.56 48:25	10:45 15:21	1:09 78:11
\$5,506.72 26:9	10:49 16:16	1:14 80:18
\$5,718.87 27:6	10:57 20:14	1:16 81:15,16
\$50,000 24:12 59:22	11 38:20 39:22 77:13 78:24	1:21 81:17,19
\$6,351.35 40:11	11:01 22:9	1:24 83:22,23
\$68,000 53:18	11:04 24:3,6	1:25 84:3
\$7,012.90 51:23	11:22 32:21	
\$7,033.95 48:17,21	11:27 35:23	2
\$7,620.87 27:7	12 77:20	2 17:6 21:12 23:17 31:19 71:7
\$79.50 36:7	12:09 55:21	2(j) 72:8
\$830.84 50:24	12:10 56:22,23	2(m) 72:8
\$902.11 37:3	12:24 56:24 57:1	2,850.87 45:14,20
\$902.12 33:1,22 36:20	12:26 57:19,20,21,23	20 23:5 28:16 56:18 61:16 68:8
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ψ 3:3:30 ΤΙ.Τ		2021 61:25 62:18

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2023 26:18 27:7 33:5 34:20 35:4, 7,13 36:1,15,24 46:21 60:23

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21 33:5 38:20 39:22,25 61:24 65:21 66:16,17 68:11 70:2 75:14 78:24

22 5:2,7 10:25 14:18 15:5,12 16:2 17:2 19:6 20:19 21:18 23:1 31:25 32:4 44:25 62:9 67:4,16, 22

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23 21:15 23:10 30:12 62:16

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